

New student life program addresses seniors

Adam Tarleton
Staff Writer

The student life board at NCSSM has implemented a new program designed to help seniors deal with campus life and to plan their futures off campus. The Student Life 102 program derived its name and ideology from the two-year-old Student Life 101.

The two programs were designed together with the plan that in the third year of SL101's existence, seniors would become subjects of the follow up SL102. The topics in SL102 are similar to those of SL101. Seniors are required to attend four sessions: senior sessions, alcohol and drugs, diversity, and critical issues.

Senior sessions were developed to deal with issues consistently affecting seniors. Some of these topics include college applications, making career decisions, and possible hardships after graduation.

The alcohol and drugs session helps meet a state requirement to

provide a report on alcohol and drugs in the school system. The session also develops the students' knowledge of the effects of drugs and alcohol.

Diversity sessions are designed to make students more aware of ethnic and personal diversity on campus and in the world. Students will hear from peers of different religious and cultural backgrounds and will receive advice on understanding people of different cultures. Senior Ben Allen said, "I think they should place less emphasis on diversity and more emphasis on unity."

Finally, the critical issues session covers any topic the student life board considers to be important to students and relevant at the time. Dr. Joan Barber, director of student life, described these issues as "timely and present, [such as] cheating and plagiarism on college campuses."

Because the student life curriculum as part of the student's "wholistic" development is a rela-

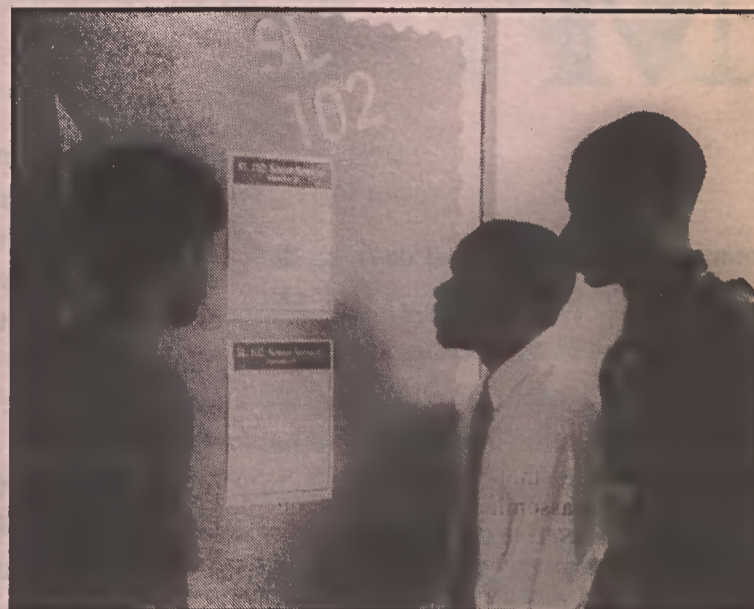
tively new program, Dr. Barber said she felt the need to prove its relevancy. Senior Nhi Tran said "We've had enough [student life sessions] in our junior year."

The student life curriculum began five years ago with the Residential Education Program. REP eventually developed into the SL101 program two years ago.

Since the student life program has three core topics—alcohol and drugs, sexuality, and diversity—the program is expected to become a graduation requirement in the near future.

Each SLI will specialize in one session topic, teaching it to students from various halls who choose to attend his or her session. Dr. Barber said she wants students to know that the times for student life sessions are flexible.

"If you have a field trip that you want to go on on that particular ALT Day, then we can work with you on the scheduling of your student life sessions."



Seniors Sendhil Cheran, Jacquelle Leggett, and Chad Wade read information on the Student Life Bulletin Board. This year seniors are required to participate in the new SL102 program held on ALT Days.

Carolyn Chu

AROUND THE WORLD

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dollar tourist industry.

■ Sri Lankan war planes bombed civilian targets, killing 72 civilians, 42 of which were children. The attack was an offensive of the Sri Lankan government against Tamil rebels.

■ In France 16-year-old Eric Bovel murdered his family and then killed eight residents of the town of Cuers before killing himself; this is the worst multiple murder in France since 1989.

NATIONAL

■ Netscape, the popular software used for computer transactions over the World Wide Web, has a security flaw. The flaw allows a knowledgeable person to break into the security coding system in less than one minute, where they would have access to credit card numbers and other types of data. Netscape is supposed to keep private. The flaw was discovered by two first year computer science graduate students at the University of California at Berkeley. Netscape Communica-

tion Corp. Promises a fixed, safe version of Netscape soon.

■ The House has voted to extend the Ryan White act until the year 2000. The Act is the federal government's main source of money for its AIDS programs. The House bill not only continues the program, but also gives the states more flexibility to provide treatment and services. The Senate version of the bill is still under debate.

■ *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* both published the unaltered 35,000-word manifesto of the Unabomber at the request of Attorney General Janet Reno and the FBI on September 19. The Unabomber has killed several people and caused severe damage during his 17 year campaign against industrial and technological underpinnings of society. The manifesto was published in the hopes that the Unabomber will live up to his June promise to stop the killings if the manifesto was published by one of the two papers.

BUSINESS

■ Cottonelle Toilet Paper, a division of Scott's Paper Co., is leading a revolution in toilet paper advertising. The company, which is now treating its paper with baking soda, is touting its odor elimination capabilities. The shift of focus from softness to odor control and hygiene is redefining how toilet paper is sold. Look for the commercials soon.

SCIENCE

■ Scientists have hope for a research being done on a new, natural way of reconstructing breasts, to replace implants using silicone or vegetable fats and oils. The procedure requires that tissue be removed from the body and broken down into cells. The multiplying cells would then be sprayed or dipped into a mold of sorts in the shape of a breast and then implanted. The procedure is mainly being developed for breast cancer sufferers, but could be used for cosmetic reasons.

NCSSM gives juniors varying impressions

Cammie Hawley
Staff Writer

"I'm surrounded by dorks!" This comment made by junior Patrick Barrow is one of many observations made by juniors at NCSSM. First impressions are an important thing, and NCSSM has made many on the class of '97.

Many juniors were pleasantly surprised with aspects of the school, while others found themselves disappointed with what they discovered.

Like Patrick Barrow, a few juniors note that the "nerd population" here is more prolific than they expected. "We are at the peak of the nerd parabola," says Mary Holmes. Many other juniors noticed other aspects of the nerd scene. Jonathan Weston says, "It's like all the Trekkies were sucked into a giant wormhole whose other end was over NCSSM."

On the other hand, many juniors don't feel that the people here are that socially inept. "I was surprised that the people here look ordinary and normal," says De Tran. A number of the new juniors have found that the atmosphere at NCSSM is not judgemental, and is

conducive to socializing. Brandy Britt feels "it was really easy to fit in here."

The juniors here also have many complaints about their new school. Says Alex Rosefielde, "...this is boring. It's the only place where you can be bored and busy at the same time." Most juniors feel burdened by their new load of homework. Hyonmi Choe says "the classes really slap me in the forehead."

Other things to get used to at NCSSM are new responsibilities and limited freedom, with things like check and housekeeping. "It's a double standard," says Sabra Smith, who feels that "they expect you to be intelligent and responsible here, but don't give you any freedom."

All complaints aside, many positive experiences have been had at NCSSM. De Tran was recently pleased to discover the joy of housekeeping when he realized he could do "such a good job cleaning toilets." Juniors have observed other positive sides to living at NCSSM. Julius Lucks likes being "close to my schoolmates." As Hyonmi Choe says, "It's all good."